

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the non-final Action of October 11, 2006.
Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Priority Claim

It is noted with appreciation that the claim to priority and receipt of the priority documents are acknowledged.

Drawings

The drawings as filed were accepted.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement at filing was initialed and returned with the Action indicating that the documents there submitted had been considered by the examiner.

Claims

Claims 1 to 12 were presented in this application for its initial examination. Claims 11 and 12 were allowed and are retained unamended.

Claims 6 to 9 were included in a group of claims that were merely objected to. It is noted that claim 6 was presented in independent form. Accordingly, original claims 6 to 9 are allowed.

Claims 1 and 10 were rejected as stated at section 3 on page 2 of the Action. Without indicating agreement with or acquiescence in the statement of the rejection, these rejected claims are canceled without disclaimer or prejudice.

Application No. 10/525,494
Amendment dated November 16, 2006
Reply to Office Action of October 11, 2006

Docket No.: SON-3232

Claims 2, 4, and 5 were presented in dependent form dependent on claim 1 and indicated to be allowable if rewritten. Accordingly, the subject matter of canceled claim 1 is migrated to each of these dependent claims so that claims 2, 4, and 5 are allowable. Claim 3 was rejected, but it is amended to depend from allowable claim 2 rather than rejected claim 1; thus claim 3 is also allowable.

Conclusion

Claims 2 to 9, 11 and 12 remain in this application and are thus allowable. Claims 1 and 10 are canceled. In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. SON-3232 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: November 16, 2006

Customer No. 23353

Respectfully submitted,

By

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